

MINUTES
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
And
AMERICAN RESCUE ACT PLANNING COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 16, 2022 – 1:30 P.M.
Conference Room 1A
Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center
One Hamilton County Square
Noblesville, Indiana

Commissioner Dillinger called the meeting to order declaring a quorum present of Commissioner Steven C. Dillinger and Commissioner Mark Heirbrandt. Commissioner Christine Altman was absent.

American Rescue Act Planning Committee members present were County Councilor Brad Beaver, County Councilor Sue Maki, and County Councilor Steve Schwartz.

MINUTES

Maki moved to approve the August 12, 2022 minutes. Heirbrandt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

UPDATED PROJECT LIST

Ms. Robin Mills reviewed the updated project list. Phase 1 had three (3) projects completed and remaining monies were transferred back into the fund, so those funds are available for re-appropriation. Phase 2 monies have been set aside, including the set aside monies the total available to allocate is \$4.9 million. There is a total of approximately a total of \$7.6 million available for allocation.

FUNDING REQUESTS

Auditor's Office Configuration Phase 3 - \$364,425.77

Mills stated this request is for the last two Auditor's office reconfiguration. Steve Wood is in support of this request. Wood reported the ARPA funds would be used to pay for the cubicles, carpet replacement, painting, electrical upgrades, and new fiber being run. This will also help with meeting the COVID separation guidelines. Maki so moved. Heirbrandt seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Mills reported the completed offices has been a huge morale boost to the employees and they are very appreciative.

Baker's Corner Outstanding Invoices

Mr. Marty Wessler provided an update on the Baker's Corner/US 31 Corridor Wastewater and Water project. Phase 1 is Bakers Corner, 236th Street interchange. Phase 2 is extending the utilities up US 31 corridor to 276th Street to serve the National Guard Armory. Dillinger asked if any of the costs have

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changed from what was anticipated? Wessler replied some changes have been necessitated by things such as the size of the district. Originally the district was narrow and went to one mile west of US 31, up Oakridge, and Horton Road extended. The plan as we move is for the district boundary to extend further west to approximately near Springmill Road. The original estimate only had water going to Oakridge then Indiana American bringing the water to us from Sheridan. In discussions on forming the size of the district, if the district was going to Springmill we did not want Indiana American bringing water further into our district and change our metering point because the county would lose future customers. There is about one mile of water main that was not in the original estimate but is necessitated by where we want the district boundaries to be. All of these changes we are itemizing and will be listed under the Add/Alternates. Reynolds will be providing the estimate and the pricing to us for what the base original cost would be and then all the Add/Alternates can be listed and justified with the county making the decision on whether to proceed or not.

Heirbrandt asked Wood to provide information, as he sat in the last technical meeting. Wood explained to those attending that meeting that the commissioners and council need the exact costs for the scope of work. He asked them to break it down into different phases. There is only so much ARPA money. Once the ARPA dollar amount is hit it gives the county the ability to get money back by processing more customers down the road which would be a payback outside of ARPA funds for future expansions. This format gives justification and provides accuracy as to what is being spent and for future expansion. Wessler noted they do not have the information from Reynolds at this time. They have completed the 60% design on the wastewater plant and sanitary sewer system so Reynolds can provide the costs. The drinking water has been lagging by a month because the authorization of the drinking water came after the authorization for the wastewater. Reynolds will submit their estimate for the wastewater plant and sewer system at the end of next week. Wood has asked them to have this information for their next meeting and to speak with every council member. Wessler is also proceeding with the drinking water design. They have moved the drinking water design up to meet the September 30th schedule and they will be providing the drinking water design to Reynolds for pricing next week so they can provide pricing to us for the drinking water portion by the end of this month. The county will then have the Reynolds estimates for the wastewater and drinking water for their October 5th council meeting. They will have Reynolds full GMAX (Guaranteed Maximum Price) price and proposed GMAX contract on October 14th. The original schedule showed they would have the GMAX price by September 15th however that original date was only looking at the wastewater plant and sewer system and the water has pushed it back by a month.

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Maki asked if there is a possibility that the district boundaries could be different for the water treatment and wastewater treatment because of the alternates or are we committing that the footprint the same. Wessler replied, you could, because this is a regional utility district (water and wastewater), that your district boundaries should remain the same for both utilities. Maki did not know if this could be done in the future, to extend the water is more expensive. Wood replied if there is a future need down the road and the county decides to expand the district to help those communities it could be expanded. Wessler confirmed that is correct. They anticipate, in speaking with IDEM (Indiana Department of Environmental Management) they are in the process of scheduling the public hearing for the anti-degradation permit which is a requirement to prove that the new wastewater plant will not degrade the stream. We have done that demonstration. After the public hearing IDEM will most likely issue the anti-degradation permit around the middle to end of October. We can not file for construction permits or anything else until after they issue that permit. IDEM has said they would like to hold the public hearing for the regional district and wastewater plant at the same time so IDEM can help with controlling costs. We anticipate the IDEM Order creating the regional utility district would be in April/May 2023. After that time once the district begins holding their regular monthly meetings, the board of trustees, at any time if a township trustee or the county or a municipality, or a developer, or a landowner comes in asking to extend the district to include them the district board can modify the district boundaries. Maki stated in the first initial the district is X, but we are only going to put sewer in one location because of costs so that could be a possibility instead of sewer throughout the entire district? Wessler replied yes, right now the district boundaries are much larger than where the initial sewer and water lines are going to be installed. Maki asked if the sewer and water lines be the same or is it possible that we install in the first phase water here but sewer in another location or vice versa? Wessler replied in the core area around the interchange there will be water and sewer on the same roads. There will be water but not sewer on the outer boundaries on the west because of the connection to Sheridan that Indiana American is going to bring the water from. We will install over one mile of water main. At this point in time there is no budget nor no reason to put sewer in the ground. Wood noted if in time a planned developer came forward to extend the sewer it would be their cost. They will also have system development charges that are based on a single-family residence.

Wessler anticipates Phase 1 permit approvals and construction starting in February 2023. Reynolds is still anticipating substantial completion of the wastewater plant and most of the sewers by July 2024 with final completion December 2024. We anticipate in Phase 1 putting a water tower in at Bakers Corner. At some point in time, we are also beholding to the tank manufacturers. We allow 18 months for elevated water tanks, if they can get started next February they can have the tower in before the end of

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2024. If things drag out the water tower may not be completely operable at the end of 2024. It is not as much of concern in Phase 1 but in Phase 2 Reynolds has said they can commit if we are on this schedule, to having the waterline up to the armory and lift station and sewers installed pumping back by the summer of 2024. They cannot commit to a water tower by the end of 2024 because then that is a much shorter timeframe. It will cost millions more if Reynolds commits to the end of 2024. They will have to see how this goes as the project unfolds and the funding from the state unfolds.

The base project is Englewood Road on the east side of US 31 which is the new road being created from 236th Street down to 226th Street. Our initial cost estimate showed sewer only to Englewood Road, as we have had public meetings we have had several customers with some residents on 236th Street from Englewood to Anthony contact them requesting water and sewer service. They have also talked with the highway department because of the widening of 236th Street there are two or three homes where their septic tanks are in their front yards, and they are going to be taken by the road widening. The tanks have to be relocated or possibly connect in. They are working with the highway department about putting in sewer and water and extend it to Anthony Road which would be very beneficial with the highway staff saying it would be a good time to install while putting in utilities before the road goes in. Those are listed as add/alternates. The Clark Farm on Anthony Road north of 236th Street there is potential for development. They have sized and looked at putting a regional lift station at this location so that could accept all the sewage and pump it back to the wastewater plant. Working with CJ Taylor they would bring it cross 241st Street and under US 31 at 241st Street. By the same token they would bring water lines to the area with the water going up to 246th Street on Anthony Road, those will be itemized because those would be attributed to development. This is how they have looked at a lot of these. Cicero has requested looking at possibly extending water across 236th Street to the east to help them because Cicero is looking for more water. They are looking at getting cost estimates to extend water to Cammack Road to provide water to Cicero. As Reynolds costs come in they will work with Steve Wood and CJ Taylor as to how those fit within the original intent, original scope, and original budget.

Heirbrandt asked Connor Sullivan if we need to make sure to have additional monies appropriated towards money that is needed right now? Sullivan replied yes, the ARPA Committee has already approved the appropriation, council has paused approving the appropriation of \$24 million. Today they are asking the committee to re-approve, it would go back to the council for appropriation at the October 5th meeting which includes the estimated costs for Reynolds. Wood stated he has requested Wessler contact each council member individually and explain the costs. Mr. Steve Schwartz moved to approve the Bakers Corner \$24 million. Heirbrandt seconded. Mr. Brad Beaver asked, as this is tabled by the

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council; Mills noted it was not tabled. Mills will have to send the council a new transfer form. Motion carried unanimously.

[1:52:28]

Heirbrandt recalls a meeting, maybe last year on Phase 1, that we set aside \$2 million for a university in Westfield. Heirbrandt has not seen that on the list. We are trying to get a four-year university, several of them, along with Westfield Schools to locate in Westfield along US 31. He thought we talked about this at some time. Maki remembers talking about it but does not remember if it is this committee or somewhere else. Schwartz remembers the discussion but is not sure where. Heirbrandt thinks it would have been this committee that it would have been brought up in. After the referendum happens in Westfield they are going to be ready to move. There will be a major announcement with more than one university coming in. Maki confirmed he wants some of the ARPA money to go towards that. Mills replied they will have to go back through the minutes and send him the meeting date and what was decided. Dillinger asked how does that qualify for these funds? Mr. Todd Clevenger replied, it would be for nursing education, all healthcare. Heirbrandt noted we have over 1,400 nursing jobs open in Hamilton County.

Next Meeting – October 21, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

The Silos at 37 Drainage

Maki requested the drainage costs for The Silos at 37 be added to the agenda. As discussed in the past in the addition to the bonding there are some ARPA funds to address drainage issues for the entire fairgrounds. Regardless of how we proceed we have to fix the drainage issues on that property. Dillinger noted the cost of the drainage for that was not \$5 million.

Mr. Scott Senefeld, Veridus Group, stated they have allocated \$5 million ARPA funding with the objective being they know there are drainage issues on that site holistically. As part of the first phase development, they want to capture the drainage for the entire site. The horse arena, show arena, even between the cattle and horse buildings there are drainage issues. There is an existing pond that is likely undersized according to today's calculations. They recommend they capture the entire site for improvements. Their fear is that if we only develop Phase 1 and we handle drainage infrastructure there we could potentially create some issues outside of the Phase 1 development because of what is

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happening on the site. The overall master plan includes a new pond that would help drain the entire property with the pond located on the southwest corner. Dillinger asked how much parking that takes away from the fairgrounds, which is an issue anyway. Senefeld replied it is in the very corner of the property, you are right that some of it is used for overflow parking but the way the master plan is put together, including trailer parking, large vehicle parking, and general public parking we are able to service what we are currently providing. In the near future with anticipated growth with the master plan we will not be affecting parking layout currently with where the pond is proposed. Dillinger asked with the overall drainage, how much are you saying that is? Senefeld replied that is what we are trying to capture with the \$5 million ARPA funds. Dillinger asked how did they end up with \$5 million? Senefeld replied conceptually we worked through those estimates with Musset Nicolas & Associates. Mr. Tim Schwalm from Musset Nicolas stated in the cost estimation for the overall master plan the site work was over \$7 million. Dillinger stated the site work, what about drainage? Senefeld clarified the infrastructure to service that site. Dillinger stated from what he understands part of the objection to this is how much is overall and how much is drainage. Schwalm replied they could break that out, he would guess it would be in the \$5 million range for drainage. Senefeld added any of those site improvements whether building roof structure or parking lot or any hard surface will increase the rate of runoff, so we have to be able to capture that. If we just build one building on that vast site the increased runoff on that portion we could handle that around the limits of that, but he does not know if that would be a wise decision without looking at how that would impact the overall site. Dillinger thinks the question for this committee and the council is that we have \$7 million plus left is \$5 million the appropriation place for this.

Beaver has no objection to use what we have left for the fairgrounds. The question is Bakers Corner project we have committed over \$25 million and \$10 million for carrying costs with the state contributing. What happens if it goes over that? Heirbrandt understands the concern. Beaver added if you have that we will have some flexibility. Dillinger noted we will still have \$2 million plus left; Mills confirmed it would be \$2,412,425 left. If we take \$5 million off the \$4.9 million we will need \$59,000. We have found another \$81,000 that will be put back because a project is done. When taking the \$59,000 off of Phase 1 then there would be \$2.4 million left.

Heirbrandt asked Todd Clevenger, from a legal standpoint from the grant requirements, site development and drainage are two different things to some extent; how do you look at that? Dillinger noted they just said there would be \$5 million in drainage without site development. Clevenger replied, you can use it for that, you would have to have conceptual costs in order to put the pipe in the ground. Sullivan added it would have to be identified and show what it is for, we will classify it as one of the

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permitted uses which drainage is one of them. They would have to show it is for that purpose, the other option is lost revenue. We are confident we can use the \$5 million of ARPA funds for the drainage. Dillinger asked to discuss Beaver's concern, which is a legitimate concern. Let's assume it does go over and it goes over the \$2.4 million that is left then where do we get the money for the overage? Beaver replied they would have to reduce the size of the scope of the project, right? Dillinger does not know if we could do that at that point. Maki stated there are different bid alternatives. If it goes over with the minimum with no add on's or alternatives? Beaver replied yes, that is what he is saying. Even if the base comes in exactly as they say it is going to they have a whole list of add-ons, it all cost money. Dillinger would agree, these are add-on's and if we do not have the money and it is over the \$2 million we will have to say no. Beaver noted it becomes a priority. Dillinger does not think we should hold back the fairgrounds project because of that, he agrees with Maki.

Heirbrandt asked what is the plan, he knows the first phase is about \$26 million, what is the plan to get Phase 1 done? Senefeld asked from a funding perspective with Heirbrandt confirming yes. Senefeld stated the current intent is based, working with Connor, Steve, and Musset Nicholas the current intent is the \$15 million Phase 1. Heirbrandt confirmed that is in their budget? Senefeld replied correct. Sullivan clarified in the GO Bond. Senefeld added beyond that they have a Phase 1a, Phase 1b. The Silos Committee is working with fundraising as well in addition to help supplement. We don't know what that is currently. Whatever that budget that they approve and select holistically, including the \$15 million and ARPA they will drive through. They will develop as much as they can develop in the first phase towards that budget. This is a big part of what they do with the deliverables and that team in place early on so they can work in the actual construction costs. Hopefully GNP in addition to design costs.

Beaver confirmed we are going to vote on this and there is no consensus from the commissioners as to if they are going to spend the \$5 million before we know what the price is of Bakers Corner. Heirbrandt stated that is coming next week. Beaver confirmed that is a legitimate question with Heirbrandt agreeing. Sullivan confirmed if he is hearing right do not use the \$5 million for the fairgrounds because of Bakers Corner, the GO Bonds do not close for the fairgrounds for at least two months so the money will not be there. Is there harm if they were not to do the \$5 million now to wait to see how the bids for Bakers Corner? Beaver personally would have a higher comfort level committing leftover ARPA money to the fairgrounds project once we had a dollar number that we have already agreed to bringing it in to, outside the add-ons. Then at some point the commissioners and council have to decide can or can we not live with the basic sewer and water plan. Do we have to have the add-ons, how many add-ons do we want, how much does it cost as compared to how much goes to the fairgrounds. Heirbrandt is

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supportive. Beaver stated to commit to \$5 million when we do not know what the Bakers Corner actual build number is. Dillinger noted it is not really committing the \$5 million, it is making a recommendation to the council and the commissioners for the \$5 million. They are going to have the final decision on it anyway. Beaver knows but it sounds like it is going to land at the same meeting. Heirbrandt thinks he is really saying we should probably table the fairgrounds until the next ARPA meeting because we will have the Bakers Corner numbers by then.

Dillinger asked what does this do to their timetable? Senefeld replied they can work with that; their objective is to begin work on the design development so they can get to that process. If talking about another month it is not going to kill us in the overall design. Ms. Brenda Myers confirmed that has been appropriated, correct? Mills stated 4H is saying Phase 1 is \$26 million, with everything going on with Bakers Corner and she knows the council voted that fairgrounds is \$66 million and basically the council has said they are done at \$15 million. Would the commissioners and council have the forethought to go back and bond Phase 1 of the fairgrounds, give it all to them instead of piece meal stuff. Bond Phase 1 of the fairgrounds knowing what they get is what they get and then the ARPA money stays, and they can continue on with Bakers Corner with the money available if they need it. Heirbrandt likes that idea better. Beaver stated we have already gone down the path of the bond issue. Sullivan stated the GO Bond is for \$22 million, so is Mills saying instead of giving the \$15 million, give them the \$22 million? Mills replied bond all of that, even if it is done in two phases. Mills suggested they take this option back to the committee and Mike Reuter. Sullivan stated the other option is the jail bond falls off next year which opens up a substantial amount of bonding capacity. Beaver replied no, we already have that figured out in our plan, we are planning on paying cash on those bonds until they roll off. That is what keeps our tax rate from going up with the next bond. No disrespect to the Auditor but you are reinventing the wheel. All we are looking for is enough time to find out the firm price on the sewer project before we commit the ARPA money. They can't go anyway because the bond issue has not closed. Mills replied that is the reason to go back and look at those numbers. Maki stated that would still have to go back through council so even if the three of us approve it there are four others that have to approve it. Beaver noted it is still not going to happen in a quick time period. Heirbrandt thinks it can still be proposed.

Ms. Brenda Myers stated they have a fundraising plan that they are working on, we also want to look at naming rights and we have the sale of the Winks Building which all factor into the cost of the project. One of the questions they have had, and she thinks the answer is they can not obligate on a pledge, correct. You can not obligate on a construction contract on the fact that, as an example Sue Maki says

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she would give \$1 million over three years. We are going to dice the project up anyway, is it possible if they decide to go back and due the bond could they obligate all fundraising to retiring the note. She knows there is a 10-year call but they could do a set aside so it could be retired. This is a challenge the committee has not discussed which is they can not obligate on a pledge. They will almost have to take one of the projects, possibly the show arena and set it aside as a separate project and if you get the money you get the money for it.

Heirbrandt agrees with Brad that we should probably table this because of Bakers Corner but he also agrees with Robin with bonding Phase 1. Schwartz stated what Brad says is good business to do it that way. Maki is trying to go back to the timing, table this for next month. To bond the whole thing, we would have to start working on that right now. Sullivan noted any changes would be subject to legal approval, we have to make sure the bond closes this year to keep the tax rate strategy in place. Beaver noted the more than likely scenario would be it would be a different bond, that one is already under way. We would have to figure out how we were going to pay for it and what it is going to do to the tax rate. We can't just throw another \$5 million on top once the process starts. Heirbrandt would like to look at the options, we will have time to propose two or three different options.

Maki moved to table this until next month, as far as the ARPA funds. Heirbrandt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Heirbrandt asked Mr. Schwalm to break the actual cost of the drainage out of the site development, that would be helpful. Heirbrandt asked Sullivan to look at any type of strategy and bring options to look at.

Broadband

Mr. Greg Lannan with Kapp, Sapper & Miller (KSM), reported KSM, Scott Rudd from Rudd Consulting, and Mike Thibideau of Hamilton County Economic Development Corporation have been working on surveying the broadband needs in particular northern Hamilton County.

- KSM held discussions with numerous county and city leaders as well as federal and state funded providers. Reviewed investor interest in the remaining unserved areas with the county.
- Analyzed speed test, broadband availability, and state and federally funded areas.
- Reviewed barriers and opportunities to expedite deployment and reduce costs through local policy, partnerships, and matching funds.

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Hamilton County has been excluded from several funding mechanisms due to a variety of mapping challenges and other reasons. Existing homes and businesses in the unserved parts of the county will struggle to sustain operations in the future due to the lack of access to broadband. BEAD (Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment) funds are currently in the planning stages and will be eligible in unserved/unfunded areas. If the county is going to be successful in securing funding it will flow slowly over several years so we will need to manage expectations.

Numerous investors expressed interest in a partnership with the county to expand service if local funding is available as a match. Federal funding was finalized with AMG/Nexlink and Mercury Broadband in recent weeks. LTD was denied funding in 181 locations around Hortonville, Morse Reservoir, and isolated areas in southern Hamilton County. Gaps between funded areas and served areas continue to offer an opportunity to leverage federal/state funding to extend beyond the funded areas. Broadband investment within the county could be expedited and costs reduced by enhancing engagement and coordination with potential investors in advance of infrastructure improvements and economic development projects.

Lannan reviewed the maps showing the feed tests in Hamilton County. As the federal government put together funding in 2020, you are served if you are getting consistently 120 download speed and 20 up. The second map shows the coverage by population. There is no perfect map, it is constantly changing. The FCC is getting ready to put out maps. What we think is important for Hamilton County is for the first time ever the FCC is going to allow counties to challenge what their maps look like. This will open up more accessibility to state and federal funding. It is important to continue to monitor those maps.

Recommendations

- **Dig Once Policy:** The county will benefit from exploring a strategic engagement process that notifies and engages investors early in the process to leverage funding, identify partnerships, and identify efficiencies and cost savings.
- **Identify Local Matching Funds and Issue an RFP:** Identify a not-to-exceed amount of local funding available for broadband expansion to unfunded/unserved areas. Issue an RFP with this local match to incentivize and expedited investment in areas of need.
- **Monitor:** Continue to monitor the FCC's new mapping process to ensure that locations within Hamilton County are accurately depicted on the map.

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Heirbrandt stated we are way ahead of every county in the state. The level of detail we have because of this study and the surveys that identify the areas of need. Mr. Mike Thibideau agreed, we are well ahead of at least every economic development department is at. It is important to recognize that we have to work twice as hard to get every dollar we get. The state gets the chance to adapt the federal rules for what the infrastructure act funding can find. The big part of this end of month report they are building and will submit to the county is that they want to also submit to OCRA (Office of Community & Rural Affairs) saying what we want to do with that money. They can think about our allowable use and desired use when they are holding those plans. As far as he knows we are the only county in the state that is doing this despite the fact that OCRA asked for it in March with a September deadline. They have also identified there needs to be a standardized process for what happens when we have a county public works project that is happening that could coordinate with telecom investment like broadband. The work being done on 146th Street, the work that is being done on Bakers Corner, the drainage work at the fairgrounds; there are opportunities for providers to align with those hole digs and it will cover about half of their costs. If we can standardize that process there is an ability to garner a lot of investment with the money you are already spending. That will then allow us to not spend any more money to get services to the unserved areas. If we can standardize those processes, find somebody that serves in an ombudsman role for the potential investors there is a way we a work forward with or without another big picture investment that involves and RFP and provide value to the community especially layered with the additional federal awards that will be coming in. Thibideau proposed if we could set aside about \$100,000 over two years through the end of the ARPA grant period for KSM to continue to work with the economic development corporation and this body and the commissioners that will allow us to manage these projects successfully, standardize new processes for the county and not have to increase the staff load or force the county to onboard another position. Heirbrandt added it will also put us in a better position to get funding. Thibideau noted they do not have a firm idea of what that scope of work would look like today, but this is what he proposes as this groups, future investment in broadband. If there is extra ARPA funds at the end and they want to put out an RFP for providers they are happy to provide that new scope. We can still do a lot of good without that.

The reason this type of arrangement with KSM is so beneficial, this need is not steady. When he first began this project there were weeks where he spent zero hours on broadband and then there were times where he spent all his time on broadband. His ability to onboard permanent staff to support this project with expertise is not something that is desirable. The need is so up and down with how these projects occur and the scalability that paying a third-party partner with flexibility is to the county's benefit.

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Thibideau will bring a scope of work from KSM to the next meeting. Beaver asked if he has a general idea of when the federal funds will be dispersed? Thibideau replied one of the things that is important is when they talk to providers they will be able to get a lot done before the infrastructure funds are awarded, 2026 is good news on this money coming through. That is part of the reason for us to have the flexibility to get things done ahead of time is a great idea. We can also have the project team in place to where between now and the end of 2024 when this money does come up we will have systems in place to apply quickly.

Mills noted there is \$300,000 set aside for broadband, they will have to look at what the application says it is for. Thibideau replied that is a Comcast project that was specifically proposed. The total project scope, which we discussed in January 2022, was to support a Comcast proposal to the state that serves about 1,200 addresses total with the ARPA eligible component being about 394 addresses. The \$300,000 was the local match for that specific proposal. Mills asked where are they with that proposal? Thibideau thinks they were both accepted in July. That project is in the works.

Mental Health

Thibideau presented the 2nd Quarter report on the Behavioral Health Plan. They have been using the ARPA appropriation with the county's chambers of commerce to deliver business education which included Commissioner Heirbrandt speaking at the April event. Councilor Maki took the class in August. They have had over 60 employers attend that education throughout the year. Last week they made public the new Skill Fit Career Port. This allows a job seeker, in about two minutes, to enter in skills and what kind of job they are seeking, and it will show them every job they are fit for within the county. If they are missing skills for positions they may highlight those and will be directed to 497 state approved training providers automatically. It automatically pulls in every position in from every major job board and keeps it up to date. This frees us up to provide consultations with businesses. They have been piloting this program with certain mental health agencies letting them know it exists. They are now producing a Mental Health 101 Resource Guide for the chambers to use during their orientation processes. This project is going well and thanked the Commissioners and Council for their support and engagement in the program.

KSM Contract

Sullivan recommended approval of the contract with KSM for accounting services. Heirbrandt so moved. Dillinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
And
AMERICAN RESCUE ACT PLANNING COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 16, 2022 – 1:30 P.M.
Conference Room 1A
Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center
One Hamilton County Square
Noblesville, Indiana

Dillinger adjourned the meeting at 2:34 p.m.

Present

Steven C. Dillinger, Commissioner
Mark Heirbrandt, Commissioner
Brad Beaver, Councilor
Sue Maki, Councilor
Steve Schwartz, Councilor
Robin M. Mills, Auditor
Connor Sullivan, Assistant County Attorney
Dan Stevens, Director of Administration
Todd Clevenger, Auditor's Grant Administrator
Lauren Powell, Accounts Payable Clerk
Steve Wood, Buildings & Grounds Superintendent
Brenda Myers, Hamilton County Tourism
Marty Wessler, Wessler Engineering
Greg Lannan, Kapp, Sapper & Miller
Tim Schwalm, Mussett Nicholas & Associates

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APPROVED
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Steven C. Dillinger
Mark Heirbrandt

ATTEST

Robin M. Mills, Auditor

Date Approved: 11/14/2022